

**TESTIMONY OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE
BEFORE THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND
FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

IN FAVOR of L.D. 705

**LD TITLE: An Act To Amend the Junior Hunting License
Requirements**

SPONSORED BY: Senator MAZUREK of Knox

**CO-SPONSORED BY: Senator BURNS of Washington, Senator
COLLINS of York, Senator GERZOFKY of Cumberland, Senator
HILL of York, Senator LACHOWICZ of Kennebec, Senator PATRICK
of Oxford, Senator THIBODEAU of Waldo, Senator TUTTLE of York**

DATE OF HEARING: March 12, 2013

Good afternoon Senator Dutremble, Representative Shaw and members of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee. I am Bill Swan, Director of the Licensing Division at the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, speaking in favor of **L.D. 705**.

Under current law, a person must be 10 years of age or older in order to legally obtain a junior hunting license. L.D. 705 would allow a person to obtain a junior hunting license in the same calendar year in which they turn 10 years of age. The person would still not be able to legally hunt until they were 10 years of age. At this time the department cannot identify any issues with this proposed legislation. It would make it more convenient for junior hunters and their parents to purchase a hunting license prior to the actual birthdate while maintaining the current age standard of being 10 years old to begin hunting.

I would be glad to answer any questions at this time or during the work session.